



ITW

03500.017725

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
FUMITAKA TOYOMURA, ET AL.) Examiner: Hoang M. Nguyen
Application No.: 10/717,641) Group Art Unit: 3748
Filed: November 21, 2003)
For: PHOTOVOLTAIC POWER)
GENERATING APPARATUS,)
METHOD OF PRODUCING)
SAME AND PHOTOVOLTAIC)
POWER GENERATING SYSTEM) July 15, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Sir:

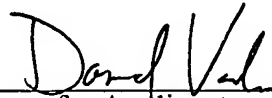
In response to the Office Action dated June 15, 2004, which required election between allegedly distinct species, Applicants provisionally elect Species I (Figures 1 to 9) and respectfully submit that at least Claims 1, 2, 4 to 7, 13 to 16, 19 and 20 are readable thereupon, with Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 14 to 16, 19 and 20 being generic to Species I to V. The Office Action indicates that at least Claim 1 is generic.

The election of species requirement is, however, traversed. Neither Applicants nor the Patent and Trademark Office should be put through the trouble and expense entailed in multiple filing and prosecution. Further, the making of an election of species requirement is not mandatory in all instances. It is submitted that it would not be an undue burden on the Examiner to examine all of the pending claims in the present application. Accordingly, in the interests of

prosecution and economy of time, for Applicants, the Office, and the public-at-large, reconsideration and withdrawal of the election of species requirement are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Damond Vadnais", is written over a horizontal line.

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